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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Junichi SATO et al.

Group Art Unit: 2178

Appln. No. : 10/548,081  
(National Stage of PCT/JP2004/002123)

Examiner: D. Faber

I.A. Filed : February 24, 2004

Confirmation No. : 7635

For : APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR TRANSMISSION

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statements that were previously filed on June 1, 2007 and December 6, 2005, Applicants hereby bring to the attention of the Examiner a Supplemental European Search Report dated November 15, 2007, with respect to patent family member European Patent Application No. 04714026.4, in which the following documents were cited:

- (1) U.S. Patent No. 6,023,714, and patent family member U.S. Patent No. 7,251,778;
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 6,345,279;
- (3) International Publication No. WO 01/53962; and

- (4) Japanese Patent Publication No. JP 9-319632 A, together with an English language Abstract thereof.

The relevance of these documents, as ascertained with respect to the European claims by the European Examiner, is set forth in the Supplemental European Search Report.


Further to 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(ii), copies of the U.S. patents are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copy is needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted international and foreign documents are attached hereto, and all of the documents are listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. A copy of Supplemental European Search Report is also attached hereto. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the present application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material. However, if an Office Action on the merits has issued and is crossing this statement in the mail, Applicants hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement, and thus no fee is required to ensure consideration of the submitted material.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
Junichi SATO et al.

  
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December 7, 2007  
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